The Pipevine

Newsletter of the Mount Lassen Chapter
CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

February 2024

Trip Report: New Year's Day Field Trip Report: Yahi Trail and Maidu Rock Overhang

A bright sunny day welcomed our group to a celebration of the New Year along the Yahi Trail. Many trees had dropped their leaves, which initiated a discussion on how to identify three of the seven species of oaks in Bidwell Park. A variety of vines were identified by means other than leaves. The Pipevine (*Aristolochia californica*) still held a few of its seed pods, although the seeds were gone. Greenbriar (*Smilax californica*) was easily identified by the prickles on its vine. No fruit, but one leaf remained on one plant. Wild grape was the most vigorous with vines climbing high into the surrounding trees. Bright green grass seedlings were the result of recent rains, and the manzanitas were covered with yet unopened buds. A week before as I previewed the trail I observed blooming milkmaid plants (*Cardamine californica*) with bright white flowers. A week later I was disappointed to see no trace of them.

At the old Day Camp a few of the group left to watch the New Year's Polar Bear Dip. The remaining group soon left the Yahi Trail and headed up toward the rock overhang. When it was not readily evident, a few climbed steeply up to the Upper Trail from which the shelter could not be seen. The five remaining followed the landmarks, which drew us directly to the shelter with the 27 mortar holes. We lunched with a lovely view of the basalt cliffs across Chico Creek, and a Peregrine Falcon perched on a nearby leafless tree.

—Marjorie McNairn

Maidu Rock Overhang

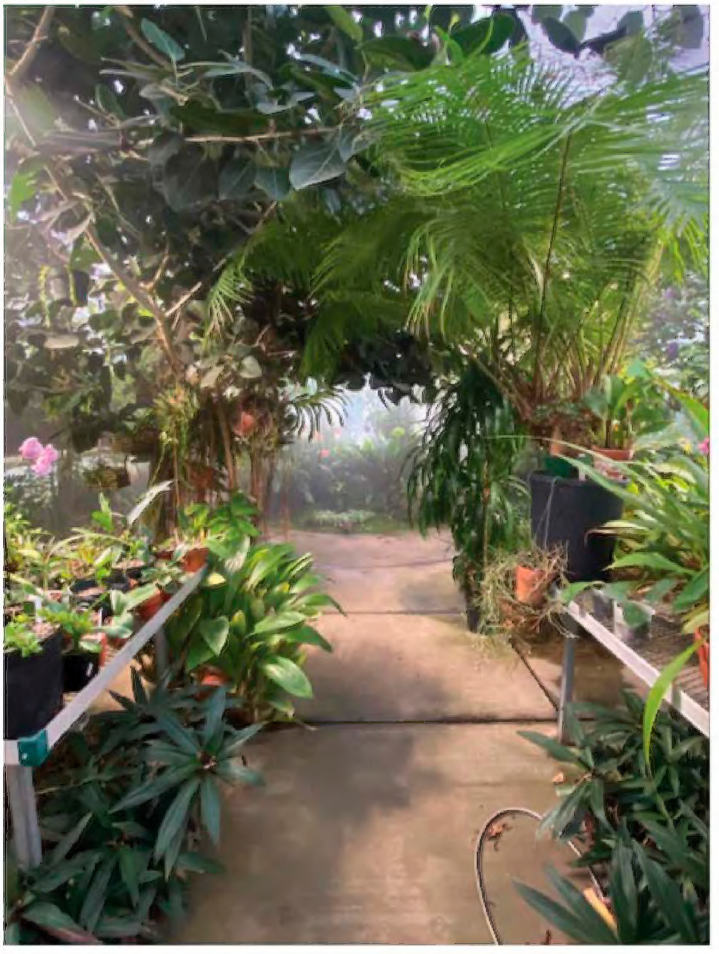
Field Trips

To attend a field trip please sign up on Mount Lassen Chapter Meetup to reserve a space, and use the link to sign the required waiver.

CSUC Greenhouse

Saturday, February 10

Meet at 10 a.m. Parking is available at College Drive parking lot Number 5304. From Warner Street turn west onto College Drive across from the Chico High School playing field. Shaine Hill, the Greenhouse Manager and Instructional Technician, will meet us there and we will walk to the CSUC greenhouses where he will give us a tour. Although these are not natives to California, you will be introduced to plants with interesting stories from three different natural habitats found throughout the world. Ends about noon.



CSUC Greenhouse

Alice Hecker Native Plant Garden And The Lost Arboretum Bidwell Park, Chico

Saturday, February 24

Meet at 9:30 a.m. at the Chico Creek Nature Center for a short tour of the Alice Hecker Native Plant Garden, which off and on has been managed by the Mount Lassen Chapter CNPS. We will then walk nearby to the Cedar Grove to see the "Lost Arboretum." In 1888 John Bidwell gave these 29 acres to the state to establish an experiment station/ tree nursery to test useful woody plants from all over the world, and then distribute them throughout Northern California. There are about 70 different species surviving from these plantings including groves of Italian Cypress and Portuguese cork oak along with smaller groupings of other trees. Ends at noon.

Volunteers needed: Water-Wise and Habitat-Friendly Garden Tour: Saturday, April 20, 2024

Garden host and volunteer applications are now open at waterwisechico.com.

The Mount Lassen Chapter of the California Native Plant Society and AltaCal Audubon Society are once again joining together to organize the Water-Wise and Habitat-Friendly Garden Tour.

Volunteers are needed at the gardens, to help direct visitors, and assist the homeowners. We also need volunteers to help with a variety of fun jobs.
Please let us know of your interest by filling out the volunteer form at waterwisechico.com.

Our volunteers really make this garden tour bloom!
Thank you! —*Deborah Halfpenny*

-> URGENT NEED <-

Our Mount Lassen Chapter is starting this new year without a president or vice president and will need a treasurer by July 1, 2024. We do have a secretary, and membership and field trip chairs, but we will cease to function at the level we have for the last 40+ years unless these other positions are filled.

For this reason we are asking again for volunteers. If you have the time, interest and energy to spare we would love to have you volunteer for one of these empty positions.

Please email: mountlassen@cnps.org

"The Hybridization of California Sycamore and the London Plane Tree in California's Riparian Woodland"
By Darhl Bradford

Darhl is a graduate student at CSU, Chico and is just starting her research. She also teaches plant science labs at Butte College, and biology labs at CSU, Chico.

The introduction of non-native plant species and their influence on California's native plants are of concern when restoring native habitat. The California Sycamore (*Platanus racemosa*) is a common native tree in the riparian ecosystem. The Nature Conservancy has noted that seedlings used from the California Sycamore for restoration of riparian woodlands may not be purely from native stock; they may instead be the product of hybridization with the non-native London Plane Tree (*Platanus x acerifolia*).

The London Plane Tree's genetic "parents" are the Oriental Plane Tree (*P. orientalis*) and the American Sycamore (*P, occidentalis*). The London Plane Tree is a heterogenous cross of the parent trees and thus shows extreme variability in form and growth rate. Because it is a more resistant than native sycamores to sycamore anthracnose, it is widely used as an ornamental tree. Since it has been used frequently in California as a shade tree, and since Plane Trees and Sycamores are both closely related and wind-pollinated, the London Plane Tree could pollinate the native sycamore, creating new hybrids.

The work I propose will be to analyze both regions of chloroplast and nuclear DNA from the California Sycamore, the London Plane Tree, and the parents of the London Plane Tree. From the analysis of their DNA, I will be able to assess the extent of hybridization of the two species.

Riparian forests provide a haven for wildlife, furnishing cover and food sources for land and arboreal animals. Among mid-level trees, sycamores are of potential value to birds because of their large size and substantial dead wood.

Less than 5% of California's original riparian forest remains. Of the riparian acres that still exist, more than half are degraded and in poor condition. The protection of remaining riparian woodlands depends on a thorough understanding of it on both the community and genomic levels. With a knowledge of this important California ecosystem, steps can be taken to assure its preservation and integrity.

California Sycamore
Platanus racemosa

This article is being reprinted from *The Pipevine,* January 2000 as a follow-up to the discussion of the California Sycamore and the London Plane Tree during the January 1, 2024 field trip.

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mountlassen@cnps.org

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Issue	*Deadline*
No issue in January	
February	January 10
March	**February 10**
April	March 10
May	April 10
June, July, Aug	May 10
September	August 10
October	September 10
November	October 10
December	November 10

Email: carlaphoto@gmail.com

MEETINGS

Executive Board Meeting:
Third Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m., except June, July & December.
All CNPS members welcome.
To attend email:
mountlassen@cnps.org

These businesses support the goals of CNPS. Members get a 10% discount on plants.

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189 E. 8th St, Chico

MOUNT LASSEN CHAPTER
CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY
PO BOX 4067
CHICO, CA 95927-4067

The Pipevine

Membership Form
California Native Plant Society
I wish to affiliate with the Mount Lassen Chapter

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

☐ **New** ☐ **Renew**

Suggested Membership Amounts

☐ $50 ☐ $120 ☐ $500 ☐ $1000 ☐ Other ($25 min.)

Send Membership Application to:
California Native Plant Society
Attn: Membership 2707 K Street, Suite 1 Sacramento, CA 95816-5130

For memberships for organizations or to become a Perennial monthly sustainer contact CNPS.org

The Pipevine

Newsletter of the Mount Lassen Chapter
CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

March 2024

A Short Story (from 1994) About the Short Lowland Shooting Star

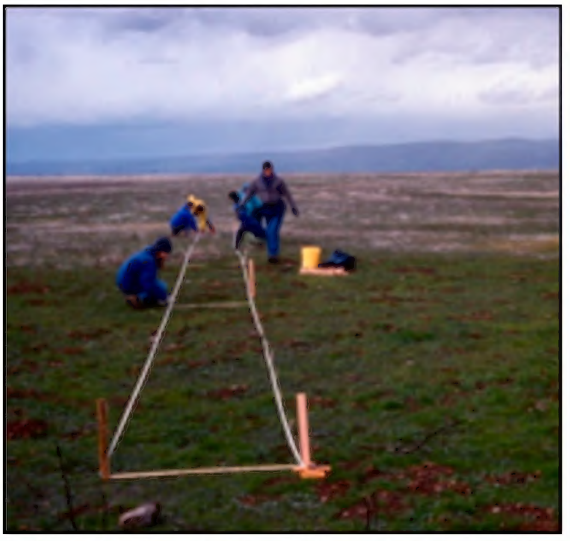
By Rob Schlising

The early-flowering lowland shooting star, *Primula clevelandii subsp. patula* (formerly called *Dodecatheon*) is a handsome little perennial in our native grasslands. In

February of 1994 Rob Schlising and his graduate class in plant ecology spotted the leafy rosettes coming up at the Vina Plains Preserve north of Chico. The plants were abundant in an area that had been burned by an accidental fire started at Highway 99 to the west (on 15 July 1993) that had spread into the preserve's grasslands. The plants were also abundant in the adjacent unburned area where there was still herbaceous plant litter. The Nature Conservancy graciously permitted a class research project to compare growth of plants the first spring after their habitat had been burned, with the plants in similar unburned habitat nearby.

The published literature on perennial herbaceous plant response to burns varies, but some species have been recorded as being more vigorous after their habitat is burned, possibly, for example, due to mineral nutrients freshly available from ash of burned plant material.

The site used was nearly flat grassland. Ten 30-meter belt transects 1 meter wide were laid out—with 15 m of each transect in burned area and 15 m extending into unburned area. In each belt transect regularly-spaced plots and random numbers were used to determine which individual plants would have their features measured. At least 30 (for some features, 80 or 100) plants were compared in the burned versus unburned areas.



One of the 10 grassland transects, extending from burned (foreground) into unburned (background)

Great care was taken that measurements were done consistently, with one person doing the same measurement on all plants sampled. Focus was on features of growth and reproduction, and for each feature measured our hypothesis was that there would be no difference in the averages obtained from burned versus unburned areas. By early May all counts and measurements were completed, and means from plants from the burned area were statistically compared with means from the unburned area.

Did these little shallow-rooted perennials do better in the burned area? We were a bit surprised that for most of the features measured there was NOT a statistical difference in burned versus unburned. For example, there were no differences in numbers of ovules per ovary (mean 134.6 +/- 6.7 burned vs 135.2 +/- 5.3 unburned), of seeds per fruit (mean 13.4 +/- 1.3 burned vs 13.2 +/- 1.4 unburned), or in number of fruits per plant (mean 1.2 +/- 0.1 burned vs 1.3

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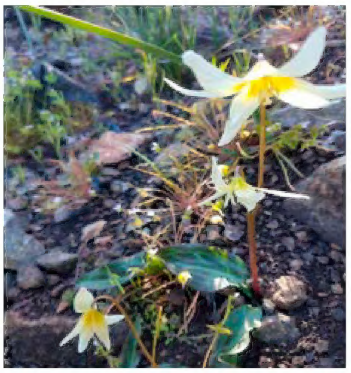
Field Trips

Nomlaki Trail
Saturday March 16


Fawn lily *Erythronium californicum*

Meet at 8:30 a.m. at Chico Park & Ride west parking lot (Hwy 99/32) and we will travel to Corning, and then west about 30 miles. These lands are the ancestral and traditional territory of the Nomlaki Tribe. We will start from the southernmost portion of the trail beginning with a gentle downhill from Forest Road M4 (2048' elevation) through chaparral and into the regrowth of an old burn area and towards Bowers Creek. We expect to see Indian warrior, late fawn lilies, scarlet fritillary and various shrubs. Many of the flowers and shrubs encountered will be the same friends found in our east side foothills, but not all. With a valley between them many plants have evolved into new varieties. This trail is also home to many birds. Bring lunch, sun protection, poison oak protection, hiking shoes and water for a 3-5 mile round-trip with no shade.
Rain cancels. Leader: Marjorie McNairn

Vina Plains
Saturday March 30

Meet at 8:30 a.m. at the west lot of Chico Park & Ride. It is about a 20 minute drive to the gate to Vina Plains Preserve. During springtime the Preserve comes alive with colorful wildflowers which carpet the grasslands and ring the vernal pools in spectacular bands of color. The pools support many rare, threatened or endangered species and attract a large array of waterfowl and shorebirds that feast on small crustaceans that fill the pools this time of year. The one-mile walk is relatively flat but the surface will be uneven with cow footprints, and may be slippery and wet in places depending on the weather. Wear hiking boots for uneven and often muddy terrain. Be prepared for possible windy conditions, bring water and binoculars.
Leaders: Elena Gregg and Marjorie

To attend a field trip please sign up on Mount Lassen Chapter Meetup **to reserve a space, and use the link to sign the required waiver.**

Volunteer for the Water-Wise and Habitat-Friendly Garden Tour: Saturday, April 20, 2024

Volunteers are needed at the gardens, to help direct visitors and assist the homeowners. Please fill out an application at waterwisechico.com. It is a fun day, with enthusiastic visitors.

The Mount Lassen Chapter of the California Native Plant Society and AltaCal Audubon Society are once again joining together to organize the Water-Wise and Habitat-Friendly Garden Tour.
Thank you! —*Deborah Halfpenny*

Short Lowland Shooting Star *continued from page 1*

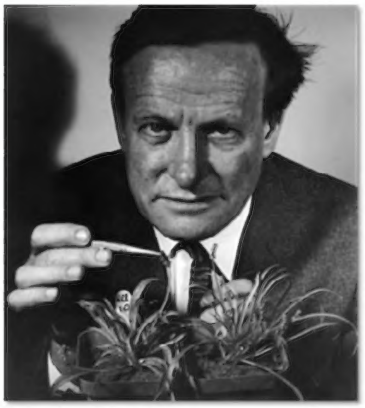
+/- 0.1 unburned). Similarly, there were no differences in numbers of aborted flowers per plant, plants producing fruit, or in seed weight.

However, a feature that DID show a highly significant difference was scape height (stem measured from ground level up to the lowest flower). The scapes in the UNBURNED area (5.8 +/- 0.2 cm) were statistically higher than from the burned area (4.8 +/- 0.2 cm)! We were not able to determine what environmental feature(s) may have caused this, but it was tempting to propose that the old, persistent dead plant litter present in the unburned area (e.g., its slight shading effect?) may have somehow stimulated growth that got the flowers higher into the air.

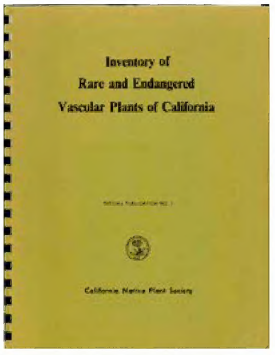
What is the take-home lesson? Results of a study like this could possibly come out differently in a spring with somewhat different weather conditions or after a slower-burning fire. But it is clear that plants of *Primula clevelandii subsp. patula* here in grasslands at the Vina Plains Preserve are real survivors, and that these shooting stars can cope with the grassland fires that can be part of their natural habitat.

Getting to know California Rare Plants, Celebrating the 50th Anniversary in 2024!

G. Ledyard Stebbins compiled his first list of rare plants in 1968, which later became the first published inventory in 1974 by CNPS. The Inventory is a widely-accepted authoritative resource on California's rare and endangered plants. Now in its 8th edition online, it continues to play an important role in scientific research, conservation planning, and the effective enforcement of environmental laws.



G. Ledyard Stebbins



First edition of CNPS Rare Plant Inventory

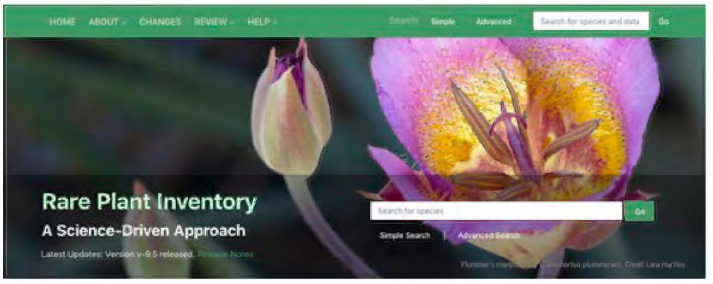
CNPS has a rare plant program, not known about by many of the membership, that is working to protect and find plants that are rare in the California. The Rare Plant Program Director is Aaron E. Sims. California is one of the world's 36 biodiversity hot spots due to its diverse geology, morphology and unique climate. Our Mediterranean climate has dry summers which are mild to hot, and winters that are mild to cool with moderate or high rainfall. We are truly gifted to have such a large diversity of plant life.

California has 6609 native plants, of which 2454 are rare plants and 4155 are non-rare.

About 1/3 (65%) of California's native flora is rare, threatened, or endangered.

There are 1354 (35%) rare plants which are endemic (unique) to California.

Sadly, there have been about 1500 non-native plants that have become established in California.



The rare plant inventory has evolved into a webpage which is now updated regularly for current changes. Many plants are added and in some cases removed as more data are found about their occurrences and threats.

https://rareplants.cnps.org/Home/

Rare Plant ranking chart

1A Extirpated, extinct
Plants presumed extirpated in California and either rare or extinct elsewhere (5)

1B Rare, endangered in CA and elsewhere
Plants rare, threatened, or endangered in California and elsewhere (1,229)

2B Endangered in CA, common elsewhere
Plants presumed extirpated in California but common elsewhere(518)

3 Needs review, taxonomically problematic (72)
Review List: Plants about which more information is needed

4 Uncommon in California, watch list (608)
Watch List: Plants of limited distribution

For more information see: https://www.cnps.org/rare-plants/california-rare-plant-ranks

Why Conserve Rare Species?
Saving plants means saving places, because plants are the foundation of life. They are part of the fabric that we all depend upon.

–David Popp

Field Trip Report: CSU Chico Greenhouse

Fifteen of us crowded around Shaine Hill as he described the plants he manages as the Director of the Chico State greenhouse. One greenhouse is used for display of various exotic and native pants, and another to grow plants for class projects and studies. We started on the outside where native and non-native pollinators were growing. Close by were large tubs of water ferns, including the red mosquito fern which fixes nitrogen and releases it into the water, but can be a pest in certain situations. A seedling germination project by one of the students was nearby. Inside the greenhouse Shane was full of stories about the exotic plants. Where they are native, and how they interact with birds, ants and other insects. For example the "Monkey cups," otherwise known as tropical pitcher plants are in the genus *Nepenthes*, and operate in a similar way to our own pitcher plants. The bud grows and expands to be a hollow pitcher or tube-shaped trap, which exudes a syrupy liquid that can attract insects. Because of the slippery sides the insects are trapped and gradually rot, providing nitrogen and phosphorous to nourish the plant. Monkeys have been observed drinking rainwater out of the pitcher, thus the common name.

We left the dry, dormant room with the Euphorbias, tree oxalis and the interesting *Welwitschia* with only two leaves that grow continuously throughout their lives and sprawl along the ground, and entered the tropical room with begonias and exotic ferns such as staghorn fern and finally epiphytes growing on other plants. The final habitat was the cloud forest where we saw a fruiting banana plant and a cacao with fruit.

Fern Spores

One more interesting plant was the "corpse plant" or *Amorphophallus titanam*, which was not showing its infamous smelly bloom, the largest in the plant kingdom. However, it was interesting enough to see the long >10 foot petiole with leaves at the top, which grew to that height in four weeks. The petiole was hollow, as Shaine demonstrated by knocking on its side. This plant will bloom every few years depending on the energy and nutrients stored in the corm.

Judging by the questions asked during, and the comments after the tour, many were surprised at the extent of the greenhouse collection, and very appreciative of the field trip.

—Marjorie McNairn

Board and Committee Chairs Needed!

Over the last several months, CNPS-Mount Lassen Chapter has sent appeals to our membership to become involved in the Chapter by assuming a leadership position. Our Co-Presidents Nancy Praizler and Cindy Weiner did not run for another term, and no one else has volunteered to accept either position. Consequently, the positions of President and Vice-President are currently vacant, although both Nancy and Cindy are still active on the board. Nancy has also been our long-time Treasurer but will be resigning from that position on June 1. While we are grateful that Nancy Schleiger has stepped forward to become our new Treasurer (Thanks, Nancy), we are still in need of a President and Vice-President (or Co-Presidents), an At-Large Board Member, and chairs for several committees, including Program, Horticulture, Events, and Conservation. Unless these positions are filled, the Chapter will not be able to continue our traditional wildflower field trips, botanical talks, biennial Wildflower Show, native plant sales, and garden tours. We'd love to have you as part of the Chapter's team! For more information or to volunteer for a position, please contact us at mountlassen@cnps.org. We are open to people sharing duties for a single position.

The 2019 Wildflower Show, an event that needs more organizational support to continue

Current Officers & Chairs

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Vice President
Vacant

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Laura Clausen

Treasurer
Nancy Praizler

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David Popp
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Chapter Council Delegate
David Popp • (530) 990-3703

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Education OPEN

Events OPEN

Field Trips
Marjorie McNairn • (530) 343-2397

Horticulture OPEN

Hospitality OPEN

Invasive Plants OPEN

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Volunteer Recognition OPEN

Luminate Email Administrator seeking replacement
Woody Elliott • (530) 588-2555

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MOUNT LASSEN CHAPTER
CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY
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The Pipevine

Membership Form
California Native Plant Society
I wish to affiliate with the Mount Lassen Chapter

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

☐ **New** ☐ **Renew**

Suggested Membership Amounts

☐ $50 ☐ $120 ☐ $500 ☐ $1000 ☐ Other ($25 min.)

Send Membership Application to:
California Native Plant Society
Attn: Membership 2707 K Street, Suite 1 Sacramento, CA 95816-5130

For memberships for organizations or to become a Perennial monthly sustainer contact CNPS.org

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Newsletter of the Mount Lassen Chapter
CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

April 2024

Water-wise & Habitat-friendly Garden Tour April 20, 2024

It's time for the 2024 Water-wise & Habitat-friendly Garden Tour! We hope you can join us for another inspiring trip through local gardens created to save water, support wildlife, and restore the natural beauty and appreciation of California native plants. This year's tour will be Saturday, April 20, 9:00 - noon & 1:00 – 4:00, and will feature eleven open gardens, many new to the tour (including two in Paradise for the first time ever) plus a few tour favorites. Visit gardens that were built from scratch, were lawn conversions, or are regrowth since the Camp Fire. Choose to visit a few gardens or all of them. They all have something unique and interesting to offer.

Tickets will be available online at waterwisechico.com, starting April 1. Ticket holders will receive the garden addresses in email prior to April 20.

The garden tour is a collaboration of the Mount Lassen Chapter of the California Native Plant Society and AltaCal's Neighborhood Habitat Certification Program. Members of the Mount Lassen Chapter have traditionally volunteered to be co-hosts for the gardens during the tour. Co-host responsibilities include directing visitors to parts of the garden, giving the garden-owners rest breaks, and answering questions when possible. We need 7-14 volunteers from our group, so please consider helping out with this really fun activity. No experience is necessary and shifts last about 3 hours. All volunteers get free admission to the tour. Volunteers can sign-up at waterwisechico.com. If you have questions, please contact Deborah Halfpenny at neighborhoodhabitat.aas@gmail.com.

Can't wait to see you there!

Water-wise & Habitat-friendly

Garden Tour

Saturday, April 20, 2024

9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

WaterWiseChico.com

Tour of private gardens, designed for low water use, California Native plants, and wildlife habitat.

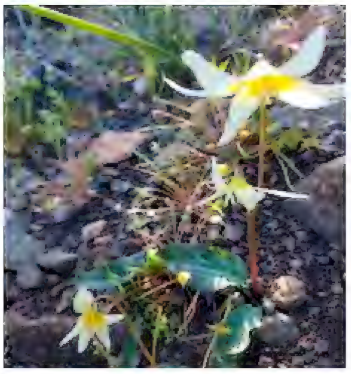
Online Registration opens April 1, 2024
Tickets are $10 online
waterwisechico.com

email: waterwisechico@gmail.com

Proceeds benefit the Mt Lassen Chapter of the California Native Plant Society, and AltaCal's Neighborhood Habitat Certification Program. Both organizations are 501 (c) 3 nonprofits.

Field Trips

Dye Creek Preserve
Saturday, April 13



Fawn lily *Erythronium californicum*

Meet at Chico Park & Ride at noon or at Dye Creek at 12:45 p.m. Wear sturdy shoes/boots and bring water, snacks, and clothing for the weather. The canyon trail is a beautiful yet rugged 2.5 mile long (5-mile roundtrip) footpath. Visitors should be prepared for a strenuous hike with uneven footing, loose rocks, a few steep sections, a shallow creek crossing on stepping stones, and tripping hazards. Explore the canyon trail at your leisure. Along the way you can stop at information stations to speak with docents and learn about the Preserve.

Leader: Marjorie McNairn

You will need to sign up on Meetup, and if you have not been on a 2024 field trip, you must sign a waiver using the link on Meetup:

https://www.meetup.com/california-native-plant-society-mount-lassen-chapter/

Vina Plains Preserve
Saturday, April 20

The Nature Conservancy and Mount Lassen Chapter CNPS are partnering to provide a field trip to Vina Plains Preserve. Meet at Chico Park& Ride at 9 a.m. or at the Preserve gate at 9:30 a.m. across from Haille Road on Hwy 99 about 13 miles north of Chico. Vina Plains is noted for some of the best seasonal vernal pools in California, with fairy shrimp and other invertebrates. The extensive grassland is noted for its wildflowers and songbirds such as meadow larks and horned larks. This one-mile walk is relatively flat, but the surface will be uneven due to cow footprints and after a rain may be wet, muddy or slippery in places. Bring sturdy shoes, water, hat, and windbreaker or raingear as needed for the day. Finish by noon.

Leader: Marjorie McNairn

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Field Trip Report

Alice Heckert Native Plant Garden and Trail of Trees

A quick walk through the native plant garden revealed many dormant plants, shrubs and trees, which were identified by identifying signs and discussion. Nothing was blooming except Manzaita at the time, although there were many incense cedar seedlings about two inches high growing in the beds under the large mother tree.

WORLD OF TREES
NATURE TRAIL
A CORK FOREST, CIGAR TREES, AND TREES OF THE DEAD ARE AMONG THE SITES TO DISCOVER ALONG THIS SELF-GUIDED TRAIL. FOLLOW THIS WINDING PATH FOR 1/2 MILE AS IT LEADS YOU THROUGH A HISTORICAL PLANTATION OF TREES FROM AROUND THE WORLD.
SPONSORED BY THE CHICO BREAKFAST LIONS CLUB
PLEASE WALK BICYCLES
NO MOTORIZED VEHICLES OR EQUESTRIANS

Signs identified the World of Trees Nature Trail, which is now a designated California Registered Historical Landmark. The Experimental Forest Station and Nursery was originally created in 1888 by the State Board of Forestry. One of two in the nation intended to test and produce exotic and native trees for scientific and conservation purposes. Few of the original trees still exist, but there are seedlings of a few of the original ones, such as Zelcova, and groves of cork oak and Italian cypress. Zelcova has six species, one of which originally grew in western North America, where it is extinct today. Its hard wood is used to make furniture. The cork from a few of the cork oak trees had been harvested and it was a good opportunity to see the section of the trunks bare of the cork, but not of the bark. The cork will grow back in about 10 year's time.

Rebecca Austin an Early American Botanist *Compiled by David Popp*

Rebecca Merritt Smith was born in 1832 in Cumberland County Kentucky. At the age of five, her parents moved their family of eight to Missouri. Shortly thereafter, her mother and two elder sisters died, so Rebecca was cared for by various relatives for the next seven years. At the age of fourteen, Rebecca and a few friends attended the public schools in Magnolia, Illinois, and Rebecca went on to take botany, chemistry, Latin, and other classes at Granville Academy, in Granville, Illinois. By the time she was sixteen, she was splitting her time between classes at the Academy and teaching in rural Illinois.

In June of 1852, Rebecca married Dr. Alva Leonard, a Magnolia physician and moved to Peoria. Their first child, a son named Byron was born three years later; a year later, while pregnant with her second, a daughter named Mary, her husband died. With the death of her husband, and the loss of all her savings in 1857, Rebecca became a teacher and moved to Tennessee two years later with some of her mother's relatives. A year later, after her life was threatened for her abolitionist sentiments, she moved with her daughter Mary (later Mrs. Hail of Quincy) to Mineola, Kansas.

While teaching there, she met and married a local farmer in 1862 named James Thomas Austin. After her husband's short stint in the Union Army (he was discharged after a year due to Rebecca's illness at the time), the family moved to the mining area of Black Hawk Creek in Plumas County, California, arriving there on March 10, 1865. Rebecca cooked and washed clothes for miners and helped those who were sick. Rebecca and her second husband had two more children, Oliver and Josephine (later Mrs. Charles C. Bruce who was one of the many well-known and successful horticulturists of Chico, of Bruce Road). The new landscape of Black Hawk Creek in California fascinated her. She maintained her interest in botany, even after the birth of her third child, Josephine, two months later. Within a year, she began collecting plants, some brought by her brothers, particularly the pitcher plant *Darlingtonia californica* and other carnivorous plants which grew near her house.

In spite of the demands of working to support her family and looking after three children, Rebecca began collecting and studying plants. She is credited with doing pioneering fieldwork in studying carnivorous plants such as the pitcher plant *Darlingtonia californica*. She studied their natural history, their methods of feeding, and the insects they captured.

Throughout the 1870s, she studied the natural history of, the insects captured by, and feeding habits of, *Darlingtonia*, and the natural history of many other plants. In 1872, she met the botanist J. G. Lemmon, and upon introducing him to the pitcher plant, became a regular correspondent of his. In 1874, Lemmon introduced her, via mail, to a Delaware botanist named William Canby, who was also interested in carnivorous plants. With her scientific teaching, inquisitive nature, and new mentors, she began experimenting with *Darlingtonia*, trying to determine if the plant secretes the fluid in the pitchers, how long it takes to consume an insect, etc. She carried on a regular correspondence with botanist J. G. Lemmon. Through her correspondence with Lemmon she became part of a wider network of botanical correspondents that included William Marriott Canby, Asa Gray, Frank Morton Jones, Mary Treat, and Charles Darwin, many of whom cited her experiments and correspondences. As her family's financial situation remained unstable, she turned to collecting the unique plants and selling them. Her scientific contacts turned into customers and

her business swelled.

Collecting and selling plants became a major source of income for Rebecca and her family at this point. In 1875 the Austins moved to Butterfly Valley. This area was set aside in 1976 as an area of botanical interest that people come to see from many parts of the world, including many CNPS chapters.

Her experiments and correspondences have been published or cited by Asa Gray, John Gill Lemmon, William Marriott Canby, Frank Morton Jones, and other prominent botanists of the time. She published a few letters in obscure journals for amateur naturalists, and other of her experiments and/or correspondences were published or cited by Asa Gray, Lemmon, Canby, Frank Morton Jones, and others.

In 1883, Rebecca and her family moved to Modoc County, and her collecting business expanded to include more of the flora of California and Oregon, with the help of her daughter Josephine. She was the first specimen collector in Modoc County. Along with Mary E. Pulsifer Ames, they are credited with giving "the foundation to our knowledge of the vegetation" of northeastern California.

Rebecca Austin an Early American Botanist

continued from previous page

As an amateur botanist and naturalist with no formal training, she did pioneering research on the California pitcher plant *Darlingtonia californica*, a rare carnivorous plant with limited distribution in northern California and southern Oregon, studying its natural history, methods of feeding, and the insects it captures; she called it "a mystery, full of life and death." There are several plants named after her, including Austin's milkvetch *Astragalus austiniae*, phantom orchid *Cephalanthera austiniae*, and Pacific hound's tongue, *Adelinia grandis*, (aka *Cynoglossum grande, Cynoglossum austinae*). Her collections of specimens are included in the collections of the Smithsonian Institution and the California Academy of Sciences.

After more than thirty years of collecting for her business, her health began to fail, and she died on March 4, 1919 (age 86 years), in Chico, California. She is buried with her second husband, J. Thomas Austin, in Chico Cemetery.

Sources:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rebecca_Merritt_Smith_Leonard_Austin

https://harvardforest.fas.harvard.edu/rebecca-merritt-smith-austin

https://www.ebparks.org/we-celebrate/womens-history-month/women-botanists-of-california

https://www.wikidata.org/wiki/Q20354041

Rebecca Merritt Smith Leonard Austin

https://peoplepill.com/i/rebecca-merritt-smith-leonard-austin

California Pitcherplant (*Darlingtonia californica*)

By Mary K. Byrne, U.S. FOREST SERVICE Plant of the week

Physical Characteristics

Its bright green stalks and bulbous cap easily identify this striking plant. What distinguishes the carnivorous California pitcherplant from the eastern pitcher plants is not only its size but also wing-shaped leaves that protrude from the top of the bulbous cap. The winged leaves are the reason this pitcherplant is sometimes referred to as the cobra pitcherplant. The California pitchplant can grow up to 3 feet and turns shades of red and brown with age. The light green and red flowers point downward, possibly to keep rain away from the pollen.

Growing Conditions and Distribution

Darlingtonia californica grows in sunny wet areas near streams or in bogs throughout Northern California and Western Oregon. While *Darlingtonia californica* is not serpentine soil dependent, it can grow in such soils and tolerates soil with toxic or heavy metals. Growing *Darlingtonia californica* in your own bog garden requires patience and diligence. Cool nights are required and as the temperatures warm up in the summer months keeping the roots cool during the day is a must.

Darlingtonia californica is a carnivorous plant; it lures, traps, and dissolves insects with its pitcher shaped leaves. Insects are lured to the slippery pitchers by color and nectar. Once the insect enters the bulbous top of the pitcher it becomes disoriented by the translucent quality of the leaves. Then, the insect has difficulty determining which way to exit. Eventually, the insect gets trapped inside the tube and slides downward toward the bottom of the pitcher where it is dissolved and absorbed as nutrients by the plant.

Conservation Status

California pitcherplant is restricted to moist and bog areas, which naturally limits its habitat range. The California Native Plant Society has given California pitcherplant a rarity ranking of 4.2, limited distribution. Land use changes have impacted *Darlingtonia californica* populations, like many habitat restricted species.

Pollinator Information

The pollination biology of *Darlingtonia californica* has been a mystery to scientists. Recent research has shown that bees and spiders visit and pollinate the flowers. Additionally, self-fertilization might also play a significant role in the reproduction of California pitcherplant.

https://www.fs.usda.gov/wildflowers/plant-of-the-week/darlingtonia_californica.shtml

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Issue	*Deadline*
No issue in January	
February	January 10
March	February 10
April	March 10
May	**April 10**
June, July, Aug	May 10
September	August 10
October	September 10
November	October 10
December	November 10

MEETINGS

Executive Board Meeting:
Third Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m., except June, July & December.
All CNPS members welcome.
To attend email:
mountlassen@cnps.org

These businesses support the goals of CNPS. Members get a 10% discount on plants.

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MOUNT LASSEN CHAPTER
CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY
PO BOX 4067
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The Pipevine

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I wish to affiliate with the Mount Lassen Chapter

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Suggested Membership Amounts

☐ $50 ☐ $120 ☐ $500 ☐ $1000 ☐ Other ($25 min.)

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For memberships for organizations or to become a Perennial monthly sustainer contact CNPS.org

The Pipevine

Newsletter of the Mount Lassen Chapter
CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

May 2024

Trip Report: Vina Plains

By Marjorie McNairn

After a rained-out first trip, the next one was beautiful. The 12 participants (one couple came from Santa Clara Valley) were engaged and very interested, especially when Jaymee Marty, an expert in vernal pools, netted the little invertebrates living in the vernal pools. Two kinds of fairy shrimp, tadpole shrimp, a water boatman and many other smaller critters. It was interesting to see the numbers and species of fairy shrimp were different in another pool. We identified a good representation of flowers, and the sheets of tidy tips (*Layia platyglossa*) were very showy. Checkoff sheets were provided, which marked the native vs. non-native species. Identified were three native *Trifolium* species, cowbag clover (*Trifolium depauperatum*) , tomcat clover (*Trifolium willdenovii*) and white-tipped clover (*Trifolium variegatum*), and common bur clover (*Medicago polymorpha*), a non-native "clover," three Themidaceae species Ithurial's spear (*Triteleia laxa*), bluedicks (*Dipterostemon capitatus*) and glassy wild hyacinth *Triteleia lilacina*.) Great Valley coyote thistle (*Eryngium castrense*) showed itself in the pools as single green stalks, as well as where it had continued developing on dry land with prickly leaves. Not a real thistle, it belongs to the carrot family. The attendees seemed very impressed and interested in a good representation of what Vina Plains has to offer.

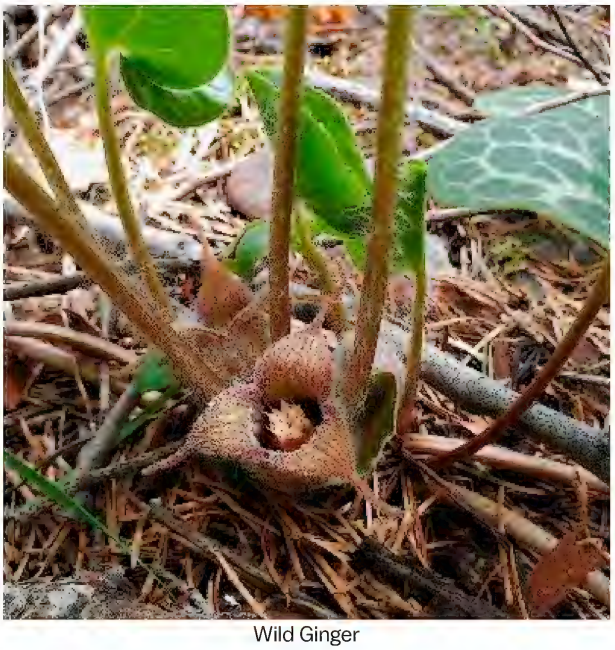
Master Gardener Workshop: "How does your garden grow?"

Cindy Weiner, a Butte County Master Gardener, and also Publicity Chair for Mount Lassen Chapter, will be giving a workshop at the Master Gardener Demonstration Gardens at Patrick Ranch on Wednesday May 22 from 10 – 11:30 a.m. The title of the workshop is "How does your garden grow? Adaptations of California Native Plants." Plants are adapted to the specific conditions of their native environments. These conditions include temperature, available water, soil type and interactions with other organisms. Adaptations, which are inherited and evolve over time in response to changing conditions, allow the plants to meet their needs. Explore the variety of adaptations which allow California natives to succeed in Butte County despite our hot and dry summers.

Register online at the UC Master Gardeners of Butte County website https://ucanr.edu/sites/bcmg/Workshops/

Arroyo Willow (***Salix lasiolepis***). Photo: NatureShutterbug Flickr

Field Trips



Wild Ginger

Deer Creek Preserve
Sunday, May 5

Meet at 8:30 a.m. at Chico Park & Ride or 9:30 a.m. at the Deer Creek Trailhead on Highway 32/Red Bridge Tehama County. Mount Lassen Chapter is partnering with the Northern California Regional Land Trust in offering participants the opportunity to revisit paths less traveled, learn about and name most of the wildflowers and plants we observe, and to enjoy beautiful canyon views. This is a moderate hike of three to four miles, and will wind into the interior of the Preserve toward the fish ladder before returning on the same route. Supportive footwear, light clothing layers, sunscreen, a hat, and ample water and lunch/snacks are recommended. Registration is free but is required to participate. Your optional, tax-deductible donation supports educational outreach in our communities, and the conservation of open spaces and wild places across Northern California.

Leader: Marjorie McNairn

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Paradise Lake

Paradise Lake
Saturday, May 18

Meet at Chico Park & Ride, west lot (Hwy 99/32) at 9 a.m. Call for alternate meeting locations. Bring lunch, water, hiking gear, sun/insect protection and money for ride sharing. Paradise Lake is about 3 miles north of Magalia, off Coutelenc Road. We'll follow the easy trail for about two to three miles round trip though mixed coniferous forest, riparian, and rock outcrops. Some plants grow only on the serpentine outcrop. A variety of nearly 300 different kinds of plants have been found along the trail.

Leader: Marjorie McNairn

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The Lemmons: Partners in Botany Early California Botanists

Compiled, altered, corrected and written by David Popp

"The 19th Century Lemmons" A Brief History of Botanists, J.G. and Sara Plummer Lemmon *by Corri Jimenez*

From *The Sierran* A Publication of the Sierra County Historical Society
VOLUME XLVII, NUMBER 3
SUMMER 2019

American naturalist and nature essayist John Burroughs believed that "without the name, any flower is still more or less a stranger to you. The name betrays its family, its relationship to other flowers, and gives the mind something tangible to grasp." Renowned Nineteenth Century Sierra Valley botanist J.G. Lemmon spent the second half of his lifetime immersed in the study of flowers so that they could become known to us. This scientific pursuit came only after a youth affected by the travails of the Civil War.

John Gill (J.G.) Lemmon was born on January 2, 1832 in Lima Center, Michigan. On August 8, 1862 at the age of 30, he enlisted in the Union Army's 4th Michigan Cavalry, Company E, and fought with the Army of the Cumberland in the Western Theater from August 28, 1862. He saw over 30 battles, raids, and skirmishes in his first two years, including the Battle of Stones River, the Battle of Chickamauga, and the Battle of Kennesaw Mountain.

During the Battle of Utoy Creek near Sandtown, Georgia, J.G. was captured by the Confederate Army and became a prisoner of war on August 29, 1864. He was sent to the Florence Stockade in South Carolina and then later to Andersonville Prison in Georgia. On May 9, 1865, the war finally ended, and a month later Lemmon was discharged at Camp Chase, Ohio. It is hard to imagine the state of his spirit and his health, after being a Confederate prisoner of war for over a year. After witnessing the horror of war and experiencing the misery in prison camps, Lemmon sought comfort and serenity in Sierra County, California, where much of his family lived. It was as early as 1866 when he settled near his mother Amelia Hudson Lemmon and his siblings, William Cromwell (W.C), Cynthia Rebecca, Benjamin Franklin (B.F.), and Charles Henry (C.H.) Lemmon who had all lived in the valley since the 1850s. J.G. Lemmon lived in the Sierra Valley from 1866 to 1876, and during that decade collected 670 plants from all over the county. He honored his friends D.G. Webber and E.L. Case by naming plant discoveries after them, thus species are recorded for all time as webberi, casei, and lemmoni.

Sara Plummer Lemmon around 1865. Image Courtesy of Wynne Brown

John Gill Lemmon

Lemmon's wife Sara had a remarkable life in her own right. Born Sara Allen Plummer on September 3, 1836 in New Gloucester, Maine, she attended the Female College of Worchester in Massachusetts, and taught art classes in New York City prior to enlisting in the Union Army as a Red Cross nurse. While in the military, she contracted pneumonia, and her medical remedy was to relocate to a drier climate. Plummer moved to Santa Barbara in 1869 where she established the town's first lending library. She became particularly interested in botanical illustrations because of her background as an art teacher. This fascination with the beauty of plants foreshadowed her eventual marriage to J. G. Lemmon. They met at a conference in Santa Barbara in 1876 and courted for four years before they married on Thanksgiving, 1880. Their union led them on a path of botanical study that immersed them in a 30-year journey in nature. John Lemmon recalled their honeymoon:

"My wife, being as enthusiastic and as devoted to botany as I, was the first to propose that, instead of the usual stupid and expensive visit to a watering place, idling our time in useless sauntering, and listening to silly gossip, we should wait a few weeks, devoting the time to study; then, at the right time, make a grand botanical raid into Arizona, and try to touch the heart of Santa Catalina."

Their honeymoon adventures paid off, and through the years, countless botanical expeditions ensued for the couple The plant species, plummerae, found in the Santa Barbara area, are named after Sara, as is Mount Lemmon, a 9,171 foot high peak in the Santa Catalina Mountains near Tucson. In Arizona, the Lemmon's discovered, described, and named 110 plant species, comprising 3% of the state's vascular plants.

In 1888-1892, Lemmon became state botanist with the California State Board of Forestry. In 1903 Sara, as state artist, authored a bill to designate the California Golden Poppy as the state flower. The bill was signed into law by Governor George Pardee.

While living at 5985 Telegraph Avenue in Oakland, the couple created the "Lemmon Herbarium," which is currently now part of UC Berkeley's University and Jepson Herbaria, housed at the University of California, Berkeley. Lemmon died on November 24, 1908 and his loss devastated Sara who died on January 15, 1923. The couple are buried at Oakland's Mountain View Cemetery with an epitaph that reads, "PARTNERS IN BOTANY."

For further information about the Lemmons

John Gill Lemmon: Andersonville Survivor and California Botanist January 3, 2020 by Brad Agnew and Kelly Agnew

The Forgotten Botanist: Sara Plummer Lemmon's Life of Science and Art November 1, 2021 by Wynne Brown

How to tell the trees and Forest Endowment of Pacific Slope by Lemmon, J. G. and Lemmon, J. G., Mrs. Oakland, Cal., 1902

John & Sara Lemmon: Early California Botanists, Civil War Survivors and Influential Oakland Citizens (from Youtube)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FC1vfmBjBo0

The Forgotten Botanist: Sara Plummer Lemmon's Life of Science and Art (from Youtube)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q8YATboZ5UQ

Lemmon Herbarium, June 23, 1895 Oakland, California

Sara's painting of Plummer's Mariposa Lily (*Calochortus plummerae*) — named for her by Edward Greene. Photo by Wynne Brown. Original housed at University of California & Jepson Herbaria Archives, Berkeley, Calif.

Sara and John Lemmon in the field.

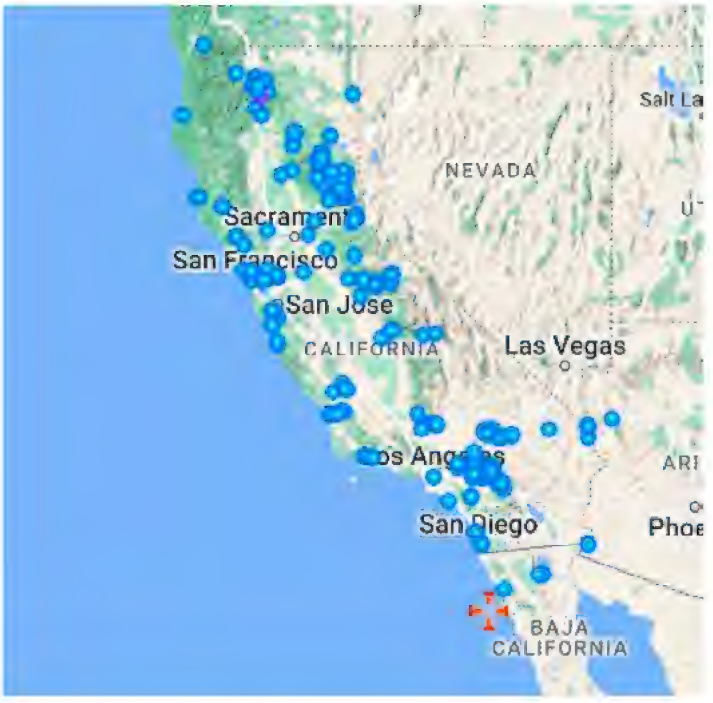
All Those Plants Named "lemmonii"and “plummerae”

The many botanical names of native plants are named after a character that illustrates something about the plant that may help one remember its name. The use of Latin root words, of which many if not almost all have their origin in the Greek language, are used as a universal standard in the scientific process to standardize plant names. But somewhere over time, the custom of naming plants to honor people in the field of botany started to use the names of botanists to give recognition to those who first brought the plant to the attention of the scientists and in some cases those who have done recognized work with plants over a long period of time. Or in the case of CNPS, having a contest to name a plant in raffle. “Lemmonii,“ which might make one think of the color of lemons or something to do with a citrus odor, has nothing to do with the plants‘ traits. As opposed to using a word like “albus” which means white and would give you a clue to an attribute of the plant’s flower color. Thus, helping one to have a remembrance of the plant name with a connection to a characteristic of the plant by making the name related to the plant.

An example is *Pinus contorta* with the Genus as the first name and specific epithet position (commonly referred to as species) as the second name. Pinus meaning Latin for pine and contorta from the Latin contortum meaning ‘contorted’.

Here is a list of most of the plants that occur in California that still maintain the Lemmons’ names after botanical studies have regrouped and renamed many.

Allium lemmonii Lemmon’s onion
Asarum lemmonii Lemmon’s wild ginger
Astragalus lemmonii Lemmon’s milk vetch
Boechera lemmonii Lemmon’s rockcress
Carex lemmonii Lemmon’s sedge
Castilleja lemmonii Lemmon’s paintbrush
Caulanthus lemmonii Lemmon’s wild cabbage
Ceanothus lemmonii Lemmon’s ceanothus
Draba lemmonii Granite draba
Eschscholzia lemmonii Lemmon’s poppy
Eschscholzia lemmonii ssp. kernensis Tejon poppy
Eschscholzia lemmonii ssp. lemmonii Lemmon’s poppy
Hymenoxys lemmonii Lemmon’s goldflower
Keckiella lemmonii Lemmon’s keckiella
Leptosiphon lemmonii Lemmon’s linanthus
Perideridia lemmonii Lemmon’s yampah
Phacelia lemmonii Lemmon’s phacelia
Phalaris lemmonii Lemmon’s canarygrass
Polystichum lemmonii Lemmon’s sword fern
Puccinellia lemmonii Lemmon’s alkali grass



This is a map of the 538 specimens that the Lemmon's have collected that are currently stored by the Consortium of California Herbaria. The image is from the Calflora database.

Ranunculus alismifolius var. lemmonii Common water plantain buttercup
Salix lemmonii Lemmon’s willow
Silene lemmonii Lemmon’s catchfly
Stipa lemmonii Lemmon’s needle grass
Stipa lemmonii var. lemmonii Lemmon’s needle grass
Stipa lemmonii var. pubescens Pubescent needle grass
Syntrichopappus lemmonii Lemmon’s syntrichopappus
Tagetes lemmonii Bush marigold
Trifolium lemmonii Lemmon’s clover
Baccharis plummerae Plummer’s baccharis
Baccharis plummerae ssp. glabrata San simeon baccharis
Baccharis plummerae ssp. plummerae Plummer’s baccharis
Calochortus plummerae Plummer’s mariposa lily
Trifolium gymnocarpon ssp. plummerae Plummer’s clove
Woodsia plummerae Plummer’s woodsia

The plant specimens that were collected by the Lemmons always carried a label reading, “J. G. Lemmon & Wife.” Some of the plants named after the Lemmon’s in Arizona include: Tagetes lemmonii, Ipomoea lemmonii, Eriochloa lemmonii, Tripsacum lemmonii, Salvia lemmonii, Acacia lemmonii, and Mimosa lemmonii. Several plants such as Plummera floribunda and Stevia plummerae, found in Arizona by the Lemmons were named after Sara’s maiden name. It is estimated that these two discovered and named about 3% of all the native plants found in the state of Arizona.

Friends of the Ahart Herbarium Workshops & Events

Workshops

Introduction to Keying Manzanitas (Arctostaphylos, Ericaceae)
Saturday, May 4, 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

A group considered difficult by many people, the 90+ California manzanitas are actually easy to identify once you understand the characters and how they vary. Join authors Tom Parker and Mike Vasey to learn about this iconic group of Western North American plants.

For more information and to register go to: https://friendsoftheahartherbarium.org/eventsviewcalendar/2022/manzanitas-ky3hl

New Calflora Tools for Your Native Plant Ventures and Adventures
Tuesday, May 21, 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Calflora's Executive Director Cynthia Powell will talk about new Calflora tools for California native plant professionals, gardeners, and enthusiasts! Calflora aggregates millions of plant observations across the state from dozens of sources and serves them to the public free of charge.

For more information and to register go to: https://friendsoftheahartherbarium.org/workshops-and-events

Introduction to the Willows of California (*Salicaceae*)
Saturday, June 22, 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

The workshop by John Bair will include a presentation focusing on the overall willow family taxonomy, taxonomic changes in the second edition of the Jepson Manual, geographic distribution, how to look at willows to make a successful identification, and key identification characteristics.

For more information and to register go to: https://friendsoftheahartherbarium.org/workshops-and-events

All Things Botanically Related Presentation Series

Wildflowers of Table Mountain: Life between Rock and Water
by Samantha Hillaire
Thursday, April 18, 7 – 8 p.m. on Zoom

Every year, thousands of visitors traverse North Table Mountain Ecological Reserve in Butte County, California. Most are drawn to the spectacular patterned displays of native wildflowers that peak for a few weeks during each spring. Which species are responsible for these displays? And how do the climate, geology, and hydrology of the Table Mountain mesa combine to create these striking floral designs? Learn from our speaker, Samantha (Sam) Hillaire, who is a co-author of the popular field guide, *Wildflowers of Table Mountain, a Naturalist's Guide*.

Registration is required.
https://friendsoftheahartherbarium.org/eventsviewcalendar/ferns-t9abk-37yr9-8tyey

California Native Plant Photo Contest

Submit your photo for a chance to win $100 and an individual Friends of the Ahart Herbarium annual membership!

Entry is free.

Entry Period: April 1–May 31, 2024

What to Enter: Your favorite photo of California native plants. Any format (e.g., macro, landscape, artistic) is acceptable if California native plants are the subject of the photo. Photos can be from previous years but cannot include photos previously submitted to a Friends of the Ahart Herbarium photo contest. Photos must be your own work. One entry per person.

Prizes: One grand prize winner will win $100.00 and an individual Friends of the Ahart Herbarium annual membership.

Two honorable mention prize winners will receive $50.00 and an individual Friends of the Ahart Herbarium annual membership.

To enter go to: https://friendsoftheahartherbarium.org/eventsviewcalendar/2024photocontest

Sierra Gooseberry (***Ribes roezlii***). Photo: Kimberly Reinhart

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Email: carlaphoto@gmail.com

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Executive Board Meeting:
Third Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m., except June, July & December.
All CNPS members welcome.
To attend email:
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These businesses support the goals of CNPS. Members get a 10% discount on plants.

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The Pipevine

Membership Form
California Native Plant Society
I wish to affiliate with the Mount Lassen Chapter

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

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☐ **New** ☐ **Renew**

Suggested Membership Amounts

☐ $50 ☐ $120 ☐ $500 ☐ $1000 ☐ Other ($25 min.)

Send Membership Application to:
California Native Plant Society
Attn: Membership 2707 K Street, Suite 1 Sacramento, CA 95816-5130

For memberships for organizations or to become a Perennial monthly sustainer contact CNPS.org

The Pipevine

Newsletter of the Mount Lassen Chapter
CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

June – August 2024

Below-ground growth behavior in Mountain Prettyface, a local geophyte

By Rob Schlising

The little perennial monocot with the whimsical common name has a somewhat complex scientific name: *Triteliea ixioides* subsp. *anilina* (family Themidaceae). Plants are often half knee-high and have a handsome inflorescence, with flowers rich yellow, and stamens blue. Some years ago Al Kannely and I studied three populations growing in conifer forests in Butte County.

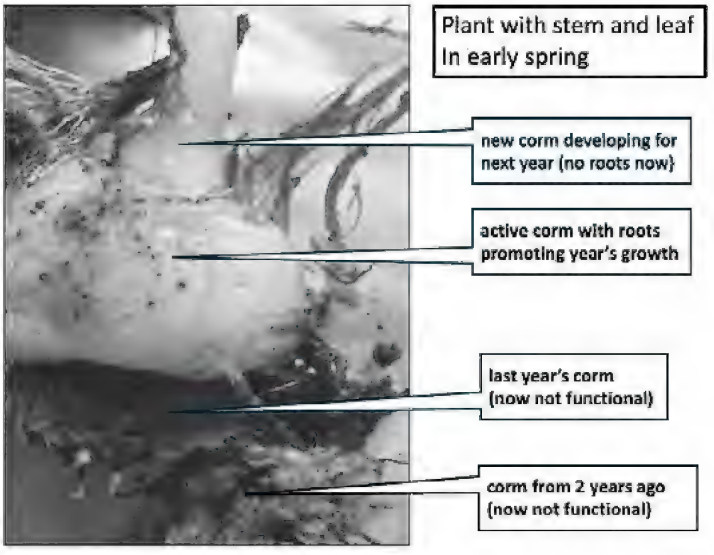
Our field study documented how the plants worked in nature, with much numerical data on features of the life cycle. We recorded phenology, flowers per plant, pollen vectors (mainly a long-tongued fly (*Bombylius facialis*, Bombyliidae), fruits per plant, seeds per fruit, and various features of seeds and seed germination. Our four-year study was published in Madrono (2014).

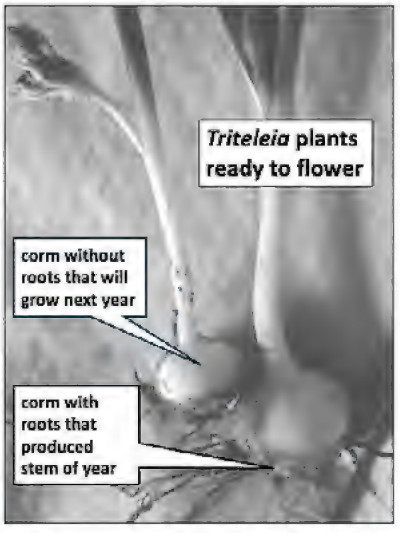
This species is a typical Californian geophyte. After seeds ripen (usually in June or early July) the entire above-ground portion of the plant dies, leaving only the round, plump little underground corm to resume growth the next year. But what happens with that dormant corm until it sends up leaves and flowering stems the next spring?

There were very numerous plants in one of our populations, so we used a transect line and random numbers to select plants that would be dug up to measure and weigh the corms during the fall, winter, and spring. Lightweight wooden stakes were stuck into the ground a few cm north of selected plants so the corms could be found.

There were good rains in October and November that year and when corms were dug we were surprised to see that there was already some growth at the top of the corms, suggesting that starch in the corm was already being utilized to start growth. By February (with snow on the ground) the corms showed some stem growth. But the most revealing "digs" came in early May, when corms had sent up single leaves that were certainly supplying photosynthate that promoted new growth.

The situation as illustrated in the photos shows that 1) on the top, a new corm without roots was growing (this would ultimately provide for the *following* year's growth); 2) the old corm underneath had grown roots and was providing for growth/development of the flowering stem; 3) the desiccated remains of an even earlier year's corm was still present (but was not functional for the plant); 4) the desiccated remains of a corm from yet another year further back in time was still present on some individuals!





Continued on page 3

Summer Field Trips

To attend any of these field trips make a reservation signing up on the Mount Lassen Chapter Meetup and click on the link to sign the required waiver. More trips may be added during the summer. Check with Meetup.

Colby Meadows

Saturday, June 1

Meet at Chico Park & Ride at 9 a.m. or Jonesville snowmobile parking lot at 10 a.m. Bring sun and mosquito protection, water, lunch and dress for the weather. Many times we have walked a small distance from the Snowmobile Parking area. This time we will spend more time to explore the trail and what grows there.

Leaders: Marjorie and Marcie

Kennedy Meadows

Sunday, July 9

Meet at Chico Park & Ride at 9 a.m. or Jonesville snowmobile parking lot at 10 a.m. Bring water, lunch, insect/sun protection and money for ride sharing. Wear footgear suitable for slogging in marshy ground and for short hikes. We will drive up Hwy 32 and turn off to Butte Meadows and Jonesville. We will walk through a wonderland of blooms in Upper and lower Kennedy Meadows to see a variety of wetland flowers: camas, leopard lily, little elephant heads, Veronica, Tofieldia, bog orchid, and insectivorous sundew. We may stop at Cherry Hill Meadow to see the pitcher plants (*Darlingtonia californica.*)

Leader: Marjorie McNairn

Darlingtonia californica
Source: Wikipedia

Bucks Lake Trail

Look on Meetup to find the date and time, and information on this trip.

Leader: Marjorie and Diane Brown

Valley Creek Special Interest Area

The date in July will be determined. Please check Meetup.

Meet at Chico Park and Ride West lot (Highway 32 and 99 off-ramp) at 9 a.m. Wear sturdy shoes and bring hat, hiking poles, bug repellent, water and lunch, and money for ride sharing. We will travel from the Chico Park and Ride to Valley Creek trailhead just north of American House on the Marysville-LaPorte Road about an hour and a half from Chico. We plan to hike the 1.5 mile circular trail in Valley Creek to view the many plants in the mixed conifer forest. The trail is well-maintained and is moderately challenging due to uneven terrain. All day field trip.

Leaders: Marjorie

Vina Plains Preserve

Saturday, August 4

Meet at Chico Park and Ride west lot (Highway 32 and 99 off-ramp) at 8 a.m. or at Vina Preserve gate at 8:30 a.m. Wear sturdy shoes and bring hat, hiking poles, sunscreen, and water. We will travel to Vina Plains north of Chico. We plan to see the rare Orcuttia, Tuctoria, and the Hoover Spurge that are found in the vernal pools after they dry down. The surface will be uneven due to cow footprints but otherwise relatively flat.

Leaders: Elena Gregg and Marjorie

Field Trip Report

The Deer Creek field trip with the Northern California Regional Land Trust occurred the day after the massive thunderstorm of May 4, 2024. Many who had signed up dropped out, and the six who remained were greatly rewarded by the lovely walk along the canyon trail to the fish ladder. It was interesting to see early blooming violets still hanging on, while in another habitat downstream near the fish ladder were blooming tarweed plants. The highlight of the trip seemed for everyone to be the wild ginger (*Asarum hartwegii*) and their beautiful and abundant flowers. Rather than the dull brown, the blooms were bright orange. Flowering dogwoods (both *Cornus nuttalii* and *Cornus sessilis*) were identified. Another highlight was the abundant scarlet fritillary (*Fritillaria recurva*) stretching up the entire hillside, and further on red larkspur (*Delphinium nudicaule*) put on a show. Several of the group were interested in the many different kinds of mushrooms. The most obvious rare plant was shield-bracted monkeyflower (*Erythranthe glaucescens*) occurring in large patches in seeps and hillsides. The general consensus was the trip was well worth driving up the hill with snow on the ground and falling from the tree branches. The trail was clear, though it was obvious that some of the flowers had suffered storm damage.

Asarum hartwegii
Actual flowers were brighter and lines more clear than shown here

Below-ground growth behavior in Mountain Prettyface

continued from p.1

The take-home lesson then, is that these triteleias actually REPLACE the corm on the plant body that has flowered, with a brand new corm each year. Genetically, the same individual plant, but with a NEW PLANT BODY! This is known for other triteleias and other native geophytes, as well as for some cultivated plants, so this is not a new discovery. Yet this little below-ground behavior is a neat feature to contemplate when you see a plant of Mountain Prettyface in flower. You know that it is not growing from the same old perennial corm. Maybe we should call these perennial plants "annuals"? You might wonder if it has been replacing its old corm and producing an entire new "non-ageing" body for decades (or even longer?).

Triteleia ixioides subsp. *anilina.* Photo by R.D. Fischer

William Brewer: an Early California Botanist

A keen observer of California during the Civil War

Compiled, altered, corrected and written by David Popp

William Henry Brewer (September 14, 1828 – November 2, 1910) was an American botanist. He worked on the first California Geological Survey and was the first Chair of Agriculture at Yale University's Sheffield Scientific School.

William Brewer, photographed in 1864, during his work with the California Geological Survey. Source: The Bancroft Library.

William H. Brewer was born in Poughkeepsie, New York and grew up on a farm in Enfield, New York. Brewer was the typical nineteenth century American farm boy. He received a basic education from the district school near Ithaca, New York, and spent a few winters studying at a private academy. His experiences on the farm contributed to his education. He became interested in the effects of climate and soil conditions on crop yields and was convinced that science held the answers. In 1848, at the age twenty, he took his first trip away from home, traveling to New Haven, Connecticut to study agricultural chemistry at Yale. He did well in his studies, and eventually earned a science degree. He took teaching jobs so that he could work in the winter and travel in the summer. Brewer was a founding member of Berzelius, one of Yale's oldest "secret societies." In 1852 he graduated from the first class of the Sheffield Scientific School with a Bachelor of Philosophy degree and began teaching at the Ovid Academy in Ovid, New York.

Brewer Party of 1864: James T. Gardiner, Richard Cotter, William H. Brewer and Clarence King. Source: California Division of Mines and Geology.

In 1855 Brewer traveled to Europe where he studied natural science under Professor Robert Bunsen at the University of Heidelberg in Germany. He then went to Munich to study organic chemistry. In 1857 Brewer went to Paris, France, and studied chemistry. In 1858 Brewer returned to the United States and settled in Pennsylvania and married Angelina Jameson, of Ovid, New York on August 14, 1858. In October he was appointed professor of chemistry at Washington and Jefferson College in Washington, Pennsylvania. Shortly after, his young wife and infant son died in June, 1859.

A few months later he was invited to join the first geological survey of California by Josiah D. Whitney to become the chief botanist of the California Division of Mines and Geology, now the California Geological Survey. The state wanted a comprehensive report on its natural resources and agricultural potential. Brewer was not a geologist, but his training in agriculture and botany made him a valuable member of the expedition. Brewer welcomed a change after his tragic loss.

On October 22,1860, Brewer sailed for California with all the baggage and instruments for the survey, by way of the Isthmus of Panama, reaching San Francisco on November 15, 1860.

From 1860 to 1864, Brewer led field study surveys of Geology and plants, mapping the terrain, classifying fossils, testing during the summer and then spending the winters in San Francisco working on his notes. Brewer wrote extensively during the survey including many letters to family and friends in a compendium of which was eventually published by the Yale University Press in 1930 as Up and Down California in 1860-1864.

In September 1862, Brewer, with Professor Whitney and two others, made the ascent to the top of Mt. Shasta at 14,400 feet in elevation. They found cedars 20 feet in circumference, sugar pines 4 to 8 feet in diameter and 200 to 250 feet in height, and "pitch pines" nearly as large.

During his time in Northern California, near the Castle Mountains about 25 miles south of Mt. Shasta, he found the rare Darlingtonia, which he described as "the wonder and admiration of botanists." His field work during 1863 took him 4,243 miles, with a total for the three years of 13,507 miles, of which 6,560 miles were on horseback or mule, and 2,772 miles on foot.

He traveled more than fourteen thousand miles in the four years he spent in California and spent much of his leisure time writing detailed letters to his brother back East. These letters, presented in their entirety, describe the new state in all its spectacular beauty and paint a vivid picture of California in the mid-nineteenth century. The fourth edition of Up and Down California in 1860-1864 includes a set of maps tracing Brewer's routes in California.

After his California experience and with his previous

Continued on next page

William Brewer continued from prior page

teaching experience, he received a professorship in the department of agriculture at Yale which held for the next four decades.

On September 1, 1868, he married his second wife, Georgiana Robinson, of Exeter, New Hampshire. Together they had three sons and one daughter.

During his tenure at Yale, Brewer took part in a survey of Greenland in 1869. In 1899, at age 71, he was hired by Edward Henry Harriman to take part in his famous Alaskan expedition. He was so delighted with the geology of that northern region, that he became a founding member of The Arctic Club.

In 1903 Brewer retired from teaching and later passed away in 1910.

Mount Brewer from East Lake. Source: Wikipedia

California Plants named after Brewer still maintaining his name

Angelica breweri Brewer's angelica
Antirrhinum vexillocalyculatum ssp. breweri Wiry snapdragon
Astragalus breweri Brewer's milk vetch
Boechera breweri ssp. breweri Brewer's rockcress
Boechera breweri ssp. shastaensis Shasta rockcress
Calamagrostis breweri Short hair reedgrass
Calandrinia breweri Brewer's calandrinia
Cardamine breweri Brewer's bitter cress
Carex breweri Brewer's sedge
Chorizanthe breweri Brewer's spineflower
Cirsium douglasii var. breweri Brewer's swamp thistle
Clarkia breweri Brewer's clarkia
Doellingeria breweri
Draba breweri Brewer's whitlow grass
Erigeron breweri Brewer's fleabane
Erigeron breweri var. bisanctus Pious daisy
Erigeron breweri var. breweri Brewer's daisy
Erigeron breweri var. covillei Coville erigeron
Erigeron breweri var. jacinteus San Jacinto mtns. daisy
Erigeron breweri var. porphyreticus Fleabane
Erythranthe breweri Brewer's monkeyflower
Hesperolinon breweri Brewer's western flax
Juncus breweri Brewer's rush
Lupinus breweri Brewer's lupine
Lupinus breweri var. breweri Brewer's lupine
Lupinus breweri var. bryoides Matted brewer's lupine
Lupinus breweri var. grandiflorus Showy brewer's lupine
Lupinus breweri var. parvulus Matted lupine
Monardella breweri ssp. breweri Brewer's monardella
Monardella breweri ssp. glandulifera Brewer's monardella
Monardella breweri ssp. lanceolata Mustang mint
Monardella breweri ssp. microcephala Brewer's monardella
Navarretia breweri Brewer's navarretia
Packera breweri Brewer's ragwort
Pectiantia breweri Brewer's miterwort
Pellaea breweri Brewer's cliff brake
Phacelia breweri Brewer's phacelia
Phyllodoce breweri Brewer's mountain heather
Picea breweriana Weeping spruce
Potentilla breweri Brewer's cinquefoil
Quercus garryana var. breweri Oregon oak
Salix breweri Serpentine willow
Streptanthus breweri Brewer's jewelflower
Trifolium breweri Brewer's clover

Brewer collected more than 2000 botanical specimens.

Mount Brewer, located in the Sierra Nevada mountain range, is named after him.

SOURCES:

https://www.calflora.org/

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/William_Henry_Brewer

January 5, 1863 and January 9, 1863, Daily Alta California, San Francisco

https://www.pbs.org/harriman/1899/1899_part/participantbrewer.html

For some interesting local Brewer stories:

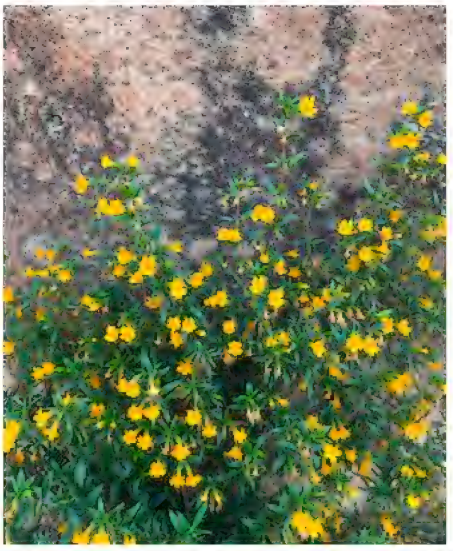
https://www.thereporter.com/2016/03/16/herhold-william-h-brewer-a-keen-observer-of-california-during-the-civil-war-2/

Friends of the Ahart Herbarium Workshops & Events

The Ahart Herbarium Is Open To The Public!
Current hours are Fridays (summer days change) 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Visitors accessing campus facilities must comply with the CSU Chico vaccination policy.

https://friendsoftheahartherbarium.org/workshops-and-events



Workshops

Understanding Monkeyflowers: Identification and Appreciation
Saturday, Jun 1, 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Join monkeyflower expert Steve Schoenig on an exploration into the beauty and diversity of monkeyflowers (genus Diplacus, Erythranthe, Mimetanthe). Steve will provide hands-on advice for the—sometimes tricky—identification of monkeyflowers and give an overview of the fantastic diversity of mokeyflowers in the state.

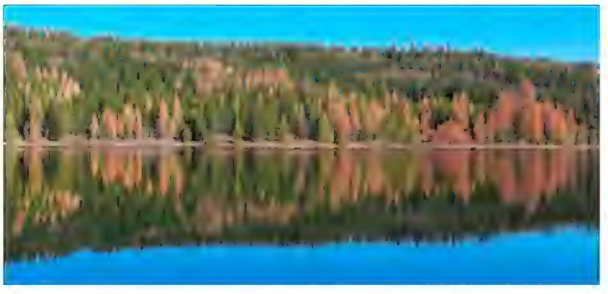
Introduction to the Willows of California (*Salicaceae*)
Saturday, June 22, 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

The workshop by John Bair will include a presentation focusing on the overall willow family taxonomy, taxonomic changes in the second edition of the Jepson Manual, geographic distribution, how to look at willows to make a successful identification, and key identification characteristics.

For more information and to register go to:
https://friendsoftheahartherbarium.org/workshops-and-events

Forest Insects and Diseases of California Conifers—Workshop and Fieldtrip
Tuesday, June 25, 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Forest professionals are often asked to assess the health of trees within private and public lands. But making decisions on the health and probability of mortality of trees can be complicated. There are many factors to assess and this workshop will present information to aid in the assessment of the health of trees, particularly California native conifers and oaks. Workshop participants will be shown examples in the field of the most common native forest insects and diseases that impact local forest health.



Photos: Friends of the Ahart Herbarium

All Things Botanically Related Presentation Series

Is a zoom presentation on various botanical topics featuring an interesting speaker occurring on the 3rd Thursday of the Month from 7-8 PM. You must register to attend the presentation and have the Zoom application. Registration is required.
https://friendsoftheahartherbarium.org/presentation-series

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Suggested Membership Amounts

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The Pipevine

Newsletter of the Mount Lassen Chapter
CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

September 2024

New Books of Interest

by David Popp

Wildflowers of California

Wildflowers of California, from the Native Plant Society and published by Timber Press, is the work of seven authors and a collection of many photographs from various plant lovers. Timber Press approached CNPS several years ago to put a wildflower guide together that covers the state.

Wildflowers of California is a general field guide that includes:

- Scientific name, common name and Family name of each plant.
- Descriptions and color photographs of 1200 common species of perennials, annuals, and shrubs, both native and non-native in California.
- Range maps of each plant.
- A general glossary and some illustrations of terms.
- A ruler on the back cover.
- User-friendly organization by flower color and shape, much like the Peterson wildflower guides.

Item Weight 2.31 pounds. Dimensions 6.9 x 1.42 x 10 inches. May, 2024. 608 pp.

https://store.cnps.org/collections/books/products/wildflowers-of-california-1

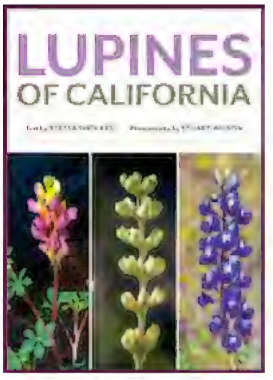
Lupines of California

Teresa Sholars and Photographs Stuart Wilson published by CNPS

This book covers all the recognized native lupines (Lupinus) that grow wild in California. Lupines are an easy group to recognize but identifying them to the species correctly can be a challenge. That is where this book makes that task much easier. *Lupines of California* combines Teresa Sholars' vast knowledge with the Lupine genus and Stuart Wilson's great photographs of the taxa. The book covers the taxa of 70 species and 43 varieties recognized in California, for a total of 113. Each taxon includes the scientific and common names, the geographic locations and an individual map of each taxon showing its location in California, and includes line drawings from The Jepson Manual, at least one picture of each taxon, a brief description including most key diagnostic feature(s), habitat, elevation, expected flowering period, and special notes on each taxon. The book includes a glossary and no need to bring a metric ruler, there is one on the inside of the back cover. The book was finally published by CNPS in 2024.

COULTER'S LUPINE
Lupinus sparsiflorus

Page example



Dimensions 6.0 x .375 x 8.5 inches. 127 pp.

https://store.cnps.org/collections/books/products/lupines-of-california

September Field Trips

Please register with Mount Lassen Chapter Meetup and sign the waiver. It is wise to check in prior to the trip to verify this trip is still on. Cancellations may occur due to fire, evacuations, smoke, etc.

Butte Creek Canal, Doe Mill Road at DeSabla

Saturday, September 14

Meet at the Park & Ride west lot at 8:30 a.m. and bring water, lunch or snacks, and sturdy walking shoes. On this level trail we will be experiencing some Butte County history in addition to seeing the plants growing along the canal and the trees above. The trail can also take us to the siphon if we choose to walk that far. There will be some flumes and catwalks a few of which can be bypassed.
Leader: Marjorie

Merlo Park, Stirling City

Saturday, September 28

Meet at the Chico Park & Ride west lot in time to leave at 9 a.m. Come with us to soak in the peaceful beauty of native and non-native species at Merlo Park. It was dedicated in 1987 by Harry A. Merlo in memory of his mother Clotilde who always appreciated the beauty of the land and being close to nature. The 20 acres include Ponderosa pine, sugar pine, Douglas fir, white fir, quaking aspen, black oak, manzanita, and three ponds. Bring insect/sun protection, water and a lunch to enjoy at one of the picnic tables.
Leader: Marjorie

Plant Spotlight

Slender Woolly Buckwheat (*Eriogonum gracile*)

Photo: Matt Lavin

A member of the plant family Polygonaceae, *Eriogonum gracile* is an annual species of wild buckwheat native to California and to parts of northwestern Baja California. There are two named varieties, *E. gracile var. gracile* which is more widespread in California and has a hairier (or woollier) appearance than *E. gracile var. incultum* which is limited to Southern California and Baja. This small, drought tolerant annual grows in many types of habitats; in sandy as well as clay soils; and in a variety of shapes, from erect to prostrate. Showy, slender, multiply branching, stems rise above the low rosettes of gray-green, smooth to hairy (or woolly), spoon-shaped leaves. The stems are lined with small clusters of flowers in shades of white and pink or yellow during the summer months or even longer. This plant, currently available through seed companies, is a good prospect for habitat restoration and for clustering among other annuals in a wild garden.

–Calscape

Friends of the Ahart Herbarium Events

"All Things Botanically Related Presentation Series" on the third Thursday of the month.

Future speakers:

September: John Dittes (Lowell Ahart) Sept. 19, 2024

October: Annual Meeting and Aaron Sims (California Rare plant program) Oct. 17, 2024

November: Naomi Fraga TBD Nov. 21, 2024

December: holiday break

Register for Zoom presentations and view more information at https://friendsoftheahartherbarium.org/

Fire Recovery

California Native Plant Society's *Fire Recovery Guide* is a free pdf download on the CNPS website. Published in 2019, it offers extensive information on post-fire care and recovery of trees, seeding vs natural regeneration, post-fire checklist for land care, soil erosion control, and more.

Download url:
https://www.cnps.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/cnps-fire-recovery-guide-2019.pdf

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☐ **New** ☐ **Renew**

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The Pipevine

Newsletter of the Mount Lassen Chapter
CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

October 2024

CNPS Annual Report

The California Native Plant Society has released the 2023-2024 Annual Report.

Several articles highlight important field work and other programs that work toward our mission of protecting native plants and their natural habitats, today and into the future, through science, education, stewardship, gardening, and advocacy.

An article on vegetation mapping undertaken by Teresa Sholars on the Medocino Coast provides a perspective on the importance of vegetation mapping on understanding regional biodiversity.

Student researcher Selena Vengco's work, studying *Erythranthe discolor* (party-colored monkeyflower), helped get the plant on the threatened list, thus aiding in protecting its limited habitat. Vengco is a CNPS student research grant recipient.

You will also find at-a-glance data on everything from website visits to botanist training, and oak observations.

It is worth it to flip through the beautiful electronic pages just for the amazing photos!

The annual report can be found on the CNPS.org website, and click on Annual Report.

Regional Plant Sales

Fall is planting time for California native plants, so there is no better time for CNPS chapters to have plant sales.

Fall Native Plant Sale
TWO DAYS ONLY
Online Sale: Begins Oct 12 at 6am & ends Oct 13 at 6pm
Location: shop.eldoradocnps.org
Plant Pickup Date: Oct 19 Between 11 - 2pm
Location: 2850 Fairlane Court, Placerville, CA
El Dorado Chapter
California Native Plant Society

Sacramento Valley Chapter
Online sale, Saturday & Sunday, September 21 & 22
https://www.sacvalleycnps.org/

Shasta Chapter
In-person sale, Saturday, October 5
https://shasta-cnps.org/

El Dorado Chapter

Online sale, Saturday & Sunday, October 12 & 13
https://shop.eldoradocnps.org/

Plant Spotlight

Valley Oak
Quercus lobata

The Valley Oak (*Quercus lobata*) grows into the largest of North American oaks. It ranges over the hot interior valleys of California where there is a water table within reach of the roots.

Valley Oaks grow quickly, reaching 20 feet in 5 years, and 40 feet in 10 years, and up to 60 feet in 20 years. Mature specimens may attain an age of up to 600 years. Its thick, ridged bark is characteristic and evokes alligator hide. The sturdy trunk of the Valley Oak may exceed two to three meters in diameter and its stature may approach 100 feet in height.

Valley Oak. Photo: Public Domain

The branches have an irregular, spreading and arching appearance that produces a profound leafless silhouette in the clear winter sky. During autumn, leaves turn a yellow to light orange color but become brown during mid- to late fall.

In advancing age, the branches assume a drooping characteristic. Its pewter-colored rippled bark adds to the attractive aesthetic of this species.

Typically, leaves are five to ten centimeters in length and are roundly and deeply lobed. The leaf width is approximately one half its length. Each leaf is matte green, with a pale green underside; moreover, the leaf is covered with abundant soft fuzz, yielding an almost velvety feeling. When a fresh leaf is rubbed or broken, an aromatic scent is exuded, evoking a forest odor. The wood is a dull brown approaching yellow.

Over most of the range, acorns fall in October. A variety of mammals and birds eat them, including the Acorn Woodpecker, Western Scrub Jay, Yellow-billed Magpie, and California Ground Squirrel. Like many oaks, Valley Oaks can tolerate wildfires. Although smaller individuals may be top-killed, most resprout from the root crown.

Valley Oak tolerates cool wet winters and hot dry summers but requires abundant water. It is most abundant in rich deep soils of valley floors below 600 meters in elevation but can also be found at elevations up to 5,600 ft.

Valley Oak is found in dense riparian forests, open foothill woodlands and valley savannas. Commonly associated trees are Coast Live Oak, Interior Live Oak, Blue Oak, Black Walnut, California Sycamore and Ghost Pine. The Valley Oak is widely distributed in the California Central Valley and many smaller valleys such as the San Fernando Valley.

Because of its eventual size, it may not be appropriate for the average residential garden. Best not to provide irrigation within 30 feet of established Valley Oaks. They'll often absorb too much water, causing limbs to break off.

They are messy but beautiful. Best to plant near a water source.

—Calscape

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October Field Trips

Field Trips were not finalized by press time, please check Meet Up for October trips at https://www.meetup.com/California-Native-Plant-Society-Mount-Lassen-Chapter/

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November 2024

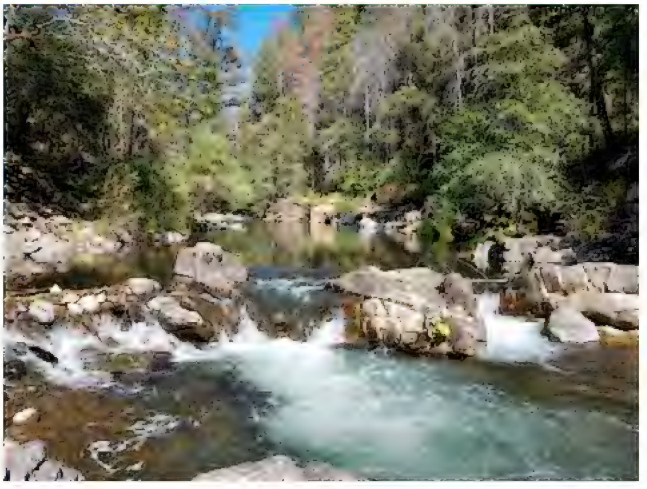
November Field Trips

Register for Field Trips using Meet Up
https://www.meetup.com/California-Native-Plant-Society-Mount-Lassen-Chapter/

Butte Creek Trail

Saturday, November 2

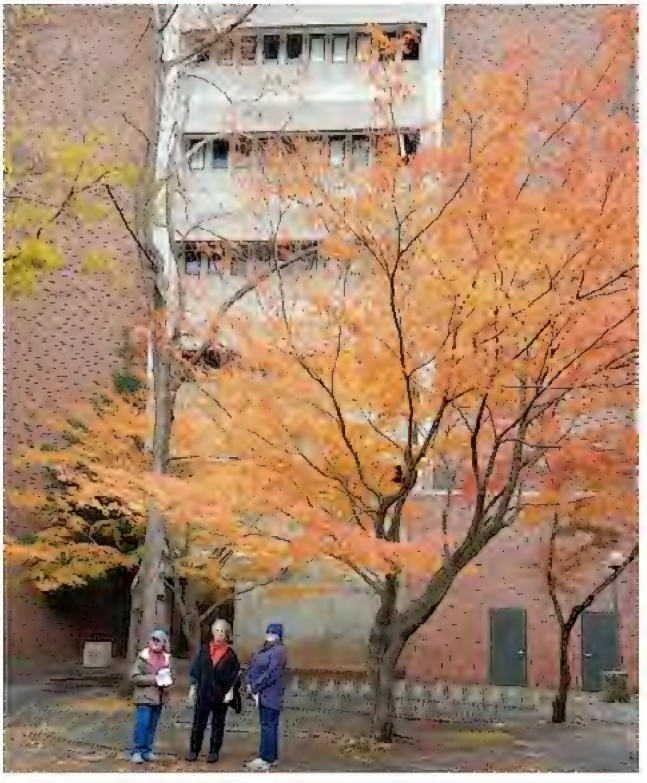
Meet at Chico Park & Ride west lot (Hwy 32/99) at 9 a.m. Bring a jacket, lunch, water, insect/sun protection, and money for ride sharing. This trail is managed by the Bureau of Land Management. We will drive east on Hwy 32 to Garland Rd, then south about 5 miles to the trailhead in Butte Creek Canyon. High clearance vehicles are suggested. Easy 2.2 mile round trip walk along the scenic Butte Creek, where we will find the California yew and California nutmeg. The trail winds through a narrow band of riparian plants and a mixed coniferous forest extends up the rugged canyon walls. Leader: Marjorie



CSU Chico Campus Arboretum Tour

Saturday, November 16

Meet in front of Bidwell Mansion at 10 a.m. to see and hear about the arboretum on the Chico State University campus. As we walk through the campus, we will see native and introduced trees and shrubs, including red horse chestnut, American chestnut, coast redwood, dawn redwood, incense cedar, Linden, golden rain tree and many others. Tours finish at noon. Rain cancels. Leader: Marjorie



Register for the Botanist Certification Exam

Distinguish yourself as a Certified Botanist at either the Associate, Field, or Consulting Botanist levels. Examinations for certification will be held on January 31, 2025, in Paso Robles, CA. Registration closes two weeks before the exam date. Register now to reserve your seat.

https://www.cnps.org/education/botanist-certification?

Professional certification for field and consulting botanists is good for the profession and good for the environment. Certification helps ensure that the most qualified people conduct California's environmental reviews and that our decision-makers have the information they need to make sound land-use decisions. That's why CNPS and other leading botanical organizations have partnered to create a consulting botanist certification to formally recognize botanists who:

- Incorporate scientifically sound botanical principles in decision-making
- Meet a minimum set of standards in knowledge and experience
- Adhere to high ethical standards

Three levels of certification: Associate Field Botanist, Field Botanist, Consulting Botanist.

Those botanists who have become certified have each passed rigorous examinations to determine their knowledge and experience. A total of four examinations have been developed to measure a botanist's knowledge. Many of the test questions are based on years of experience, not from a course lecture. Two of the exams measure the botanist's knowledge and skill at identifying the California flora. The remaining two exams measure the botanist's knowledge of terminology, taxonomy, floristics, statistics, field measurement and survey methods, vegetation ecology, environmental regulations and processes, and everything else that the field and/or consulting botanist working in California needs to know. The Certified Botanist has passed each exam with at least a score of 75%, and signed their name to a Botanist's Code of Ethics that requires the Certified Botanist to hold and follow high professional standards in conduct.

Rooted in Health: The Dirt on Soil for California Native Plants

Naturehood Webinar

Thursday, November 7, 2024

5:30 – 6:30 p.m.

Join Landscape Architect and educator Jennifer de Graaf as she digs into the essential role of healthy soil in thriving California native plant gardens. Learn practical tips for improving soil health, supporting native ecosystems, and setting your garden up for long-term success from the ground up!

https://www.cnps.org/event/november-naturehood-webinar-rooted-in-health-the-dirt-on-soil-for-california-native-plants

Friends of the Ahart Herbarium

All Things Botanically Related Presentation Series

Past presentations are available to watch at:

https://friendsoftheahartherbarium.org/presentation-series

WILDFLOWERS OF TABLE MOUNTAIN: LIFE BETWEEN ROCK AND WATER

Every year, thousands of visitors traverse North Table Mountain Ecological Reserve in Butte County, California. Most are drawn to the spectacular patterned displays of native wildflowers that peak for a few weeks during each spring. Which species are responsible for these displays? And how do the climate, geology, and hydrology of the Table Mountain mesa combine to create these striking floral designs? Learn from our speaker, Samantha (Sam) Hillaire, who is a co-author of the popular field guide, "*Wildflowers of Table Mountain, a Naturalist's Guide.*"

View the Presentation Here.

End-Of-Year Plant Propagule Quiz

By Rob Schlising

Plant names. In the fall many flowering plants show their propagules—fruits and seeds—or perhaps still hold the remains of the propagules produced earlier in the year. In spring and summer these plants produced flowers that were fun to identify. But are we as good at identifying plant propagules? Propagules of 9 Butte County plants are shown, 7 from native plants.

Dispersal of propagules. In addition to enjoying the diversity of fruits themselves It is also fun to think of how these fruits get their seeds to disperse away from the parent plant that made them. A series of technical terms all include the root "chory"(pronounced "korey"). It's from the Greek, and means "to disperse" or "to wander."

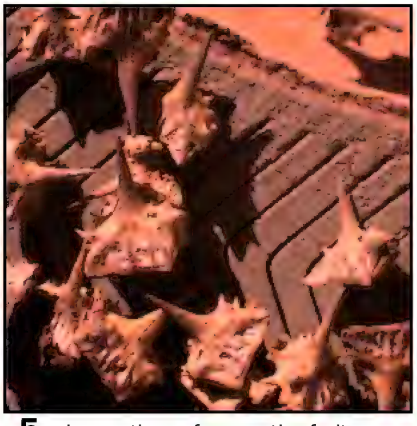
Use the terms and impress people! Anemochory (dispersal by wind); Anthropochory (dispersal by people); Autochory (dispersal by "self" e.g., shooting the seeds); Endozoochory (dispersal inside of animals); Epizoochory (dispersal on the surfaces of animals); and Hydrochory (dispersal by water). Can you guess the probable type of dispersal used by the propagules below? *(answers on next page).*

1 white, veiny fruits may persist through the winter

2 seeds in corky fruits probably dispersed by water

3 each single-seeded fruit with a long, hairy plume

4 wing encloses single seed in riparian plant



5 spiny sections of non-native fruits attach to tennis shoes

6 shiny red fruits on sticky pedicels used by people, birds and bears

7 tufted seeds produced on plants with long red flowers

8 spiny non-native fruit not liked by people or pooches

9 small purplish fruits (if not eaten by birds) shoot seeds explosively

Plant Spotlight

White Alder—*Alnus rhombifolia*

White Alder (*Alnus rhombifolia*) is a member of the Birch family (*Betulaceae*) native to western North America, from Washington east to western Montana and south to San Diego County, occurring at altitudes of 300-7900 feet. Though not reported from northern Baja California, it has been predicted to occur there on the basis of its climatic adaptation.

White Alder is a medium-sized deciduous tree. Its pale gray bark is smooth on young trees, becoming scaly on old trees.

The flowers are produced in catkins. The male catkins are pendulous, slender, 1 to 4 inches long, yellowish, and produced in clusters of two to seven. Pollination happens in early spring, before the leaves emerge. The tree produces very large amounts of pollen at this time.

The female catkins are ovoid and mature in autumn, superficially resembling a small conifer cone. The small winged seeds disperse through the winter, leaving the old woody, blackish 'cones' on the tree for up to a year after.

Plant White Alders in moist soils or on the edges of permanently wet areas such as streambanks or edges of regularly irrigated area. These trees grow quickly to 20 feet, and then more slowly. The roots can be invasive, so use caution in deciding where to plant. Due to its ultimate size, White Alder may not be appropriate for small residential gardens.

—Calscape

Answer Key End-Of-Year Plant Propagule Quiz

1. *Toxicodendron diversilobum* (poison oak) Dispersal by endozoochory	**2**. *Aristolochia californica* (California pipevine) Dispersal by hydrochory	**3**. *Cercocarpus betuloides* (mountain mahogany) Dispersal by anemochory
4. *Fraxinus latifolia* (Oregon ash) Dispersal by anemochory	**5**. *Tribulus terrestris* (puncture vine) Dispersal by epizoochory and anthropochory	**6**. *Arctostaphylos viscida* (whiteleaf manzanita) Dispersal by endozoochory
7. *Epilobium canum* (California fucsia) Dispersal by anemochory	**8**. *Xanthium strumarium* (rough cocklebur) Dispersal by epizoochory and anthropochory	**9**. *Arceuthobium campylopodum* (dwarf mistletoe) Dispersal by endozoochory and autochory

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Butte Canyon Walk

Sunday, December 10

Meet at Park and Ride west lot at 9 a.m. for an easy 2-4 mile walk above Butte Creek along the Power Plant Ditch and across a few trestles. This walk is a resurrection of the annual walk taken in the 1980s and 1990s to monitor the blooming plants in December. Alternate meeting place is the ditch crossing at the Centerville Road, but parking is limited. Wear clothing to fit the weather and bring lunch and water. Leader: Marjorie

"Banana Belt" Bidwell Park Hike

Wednesday, January 1, 2025

Meet at 10 a.m. at the Horseshoe Lake parking lot with lunch water and appropriate clothing. Wear boots or sturdy shoes for hiking on the ridge trail. See what plants are blooming on the warm north ridge of Upper Bidwell Park. Rain cancels. Leader: Marjorie

A Post-Election Message from CNPS

Dear CNPS Members and Supporters,

For nearly 60 years, CNPS has successfully championed, defended, and celebrated native plants across administrations, through difficult economic conditions, and amid great societal change.

There is no doubt that the outcome of this fall's election impacts native plants and habitats, from local elections and state ballot measures to the presidency. That's why CNPS endorsed state Proposition 4 on this year's ballot, which will provide urgently needed funding for conservation and restoration. Californians passed Prop 4, because we understand that by investing in and protecting nature, we also protect ourselves.

In California, people of all backgrounds cherish our connections to the natural world, including our public lands. That's why California Native American Tribes, local officials, veterans, outdoor recreation businesses, public health officials, scientists, and communities are joining together, urging President Biden to take action immediately to designate the proposed Chuckwalla, Sáttítla, and Kw'tsán national monuments. It's why we, the California Native Plant Society, are calling on the President to act now to support these popular California priorities.

Regardless of who a person votes for, national monuments are for everyone. They protect cultural landscapes, safeguard biodiversity, and support local economies. And as we saw during the peak of the pandemic, nature heals our weary minds and hearts. We need the natural world just as it needs our voices.

As we turn toward the future, CNPS resolves to protect native plants and habitats regardless of what transpires. Importantly, we know we're not alone. We are fortunate to belong to a powerful network of CNPS members and partners. Our movement is stronger than ever, thanks to each of you.

Sincerely,

Jun Bando, Executive Director, and Vivian Neou, Board President

Textures of Autumn

Naturehood Webinar

Thursday, December 5, 2024

5:30 – 6:30 p.m.
Discover the layered beauty of California native plant gardens in the fall season, where rich textures come together to create dynamic, sensory landscapes. From feathery grasses to bold seed heads—native plants highlight autumn's natural palette and enhance habitat value in the garden. Learn about Patricia Carpenter's Davis, CA garden that celebrates native plants while supporting local ecosystems.

https://www.cnps.org/event/naturehood-december-2024-textures-of-autumn

Photo: CNPS

Friends of the Ahart Herbarium

Native Plant Holiday Wreath Workshop

Saturday, December 7, 2024, 1–4 p.m.
Room 129 in Holt Hall, at CSU Chico.

Instructors—Jennifer Jewell and Adrienne Edwards
Back by popular demand! Learn more about California native plants while you create a unique holiday wreath. Many of our native chaparral shrubs and forest trees are evergreen, and can remain fragrant for years after drying. Join us for an afternoon of creativity and good cheer!

We provide wreath frames, tools, and a wide selection of native plant trimmings, such as incense cedar (*Calocedrus decurrens*), coast redwood (*Sequoia sempervirens*), sages (*Salvia spp.*), manzanitas (*Arctostaphylos spp.*), buckbrush (*Ceanothus cuneatus*) and California bay (*Umbellularia californica*). Embellishments for your wreaths will range from native buckeye seeds (*Aesculus californica*), acorns (*Quercus lobata*), berries (*Heteromeles arbutifolia*), and infructescences of Matilija poppy (*Romneya coulteri*), spicebush (*Calycanthus occidentalis*), and Cleveland sage (*Salvia clevelandii*). We will share botanical and ethnobotanical information about all the native plants we use. You are welcome to bring additional plant clippings you especially want to use, including any you need us to identify.

Instructors
Jennifer Jewell is a writer, photographer, author, and host of the public radio program "Cultivating Place" (www.cultivatingplace.com).

Adrienne Edwards is a botanist, ecologist, and author of Firescaping Your Home. She teaches at CSU Chico, consults on environmental issues, and develops educational materials.

Registration
Registration is limited to the first 20 participants. Please register online to reserve your spot. Registration to create one wreath is $65; two wreaths would be a total of $85.

Complete the online registration form and submit payment: https://forms.gle/PneePFa3EHcX925H7

Further instructions are presented on the online registration form for paying with credit card or check.

If you need additional assistance with workshop registration, please contact the Chico State Biology Office at (530) 898-5356.

Registration for one wreath is $65 ($85 if you wish to make two). For more details about workshop content, contact a workshop leader at aledwards@csuchico.edu or cultivatingplace@gmail.com.

Questions about signing up for the workshop? Please contact Friends of the Ahart Herbarium (FOAH) at aledwards@csuchico.edu.

100% of the proceeds will be donated to FOAH to support the mission of the Ahart Herbarium.

You will receive more information on workshop logistics closer to the date of the workshop!

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Issue	*Deadline*
No issue in January	
February	January 10
March	February 10
April	March 10
May	April 10
June, July, Aug	May 10
September	August 10
October	September 10
November	October 10
December	November 10

MEETINGS

Executive Board Meeting:
Third Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m., except June, July & December.
All CNPS members welcome.
To attend email:
mountlassen@cnps.org

These businesses support the goals of CNPS. Members get a 10% discount on plants.

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The Pipevine

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☐ $50 ☐ $120 ☐ $500 ☐ $1000 ☐ Other ($25 min.)

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California Native Plant Society
Attn: Membership 2707 K Street, Suite 1 Sacramento, CA 95816-5130

For memberships for organizations or to become a Perennial monthly sustainer contact CNPS.org